

February Meetings

Dates & Times:

Matinee, 2:30, Wednesday, February 9

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, February 9 and 10

Place:

May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker:

Eric Crystal

Subject:

"Souls and Spirits"

Few traditional cultures have survived the influences and pressures of the expanding modern world. But, on the mountainous island of Sulawesi, just east of Borneo, live the Toraja; a people whose lifestyle and religion have remained unchanged for thousands of years.

The rather tedious, somewhat lonely existence of this rice farming culture is punctuated at various times of the year by elaborate religious ceremonies; ancient rituals conducted to insure continued good health and bountiful harvests for the entire village. The religion, culture and traditions of the Toraja center around the belief that man is inextricably linked to, but will never be master of, his environment. It is this interrelationship of man, nature and rituals in highland Indonesia that is the subject of our February meetings.

Our speaker, Dr. Eric Crystal, completed both his undergraduate and graduate studies in anthropology at the University of California, Berkeley. He has traveled extensively throughout Indonesia and Southeast Asia and is a familiar face to the people of Sulawesi. An excellent photographer and film maker, his **Mabugi: Trance of the Toraja** was selected for screening at the American Film Festival in New York City and he recently acted as consultant to the BBC for a documentary film on the Toraja to be released in 1978.

Special Exhibits

Living Arts

Dr. Crystal is the author of "Ceremonies of the Ancestors", an article which appeared in the Jan.-Feb., 1976 issue of **Pacific Discovery**. "Souls and Spirits" promises to be a vivid visual presentation on the same subject and a program you won't want to miss. As usual, your membership card admits you through the Cowell Hall entrance. At the matinee presentation you may be asked to present your card once again at the auditorium door.

The Beautiful Birds of Ron Shunk opens this month in Lower Cowell Hall Gallery. Bird fanciers and photography buffs alike will enjoy these beautiful photographs of some of California's most colorful specimens.

The Osteheimer Collection of Hawaiian Antiquities offers domestic articles used by Hawaiians prior to and just following contact with Europeans, as well as ornamental pieces such as feather leis and carved stick gods used in ancient rituals. In Hohfeld Gallery II.

Sculptures by Lorenzo Ghiglieri is a new temporary exhibit in North American Hall. Exquisite bronze statues of grizzlies, timber wolves and the American bald eagle are part of Mr. Ghiglieri's "Heritage International Wildlife Collection." These lovely works are for sale; check exhibit label for further information.

Living Arts presentations in the Wattis Hall of Man for February include:

February 6, 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. — Traditional Latin American music by guitarist, Jose Luis Orozco.

February 13, 2 to 4 p.m. — Pamela Hinchcliffe demonstrates the art of crocheting clothes without patterns.

February 20, 3 to 4 p.m. — Selections by the Conservatory Players.

February 27, 3 to 4 p.m. — Lyn Elder and Evergreen play medieval and renaissance music on original instruments.

Morrison Planetarium

Laserium

Wonder what the weather is like on Mars, Jupiter, Venus? Find out at the Morrison Planetarium through March 20 when we present **Weather or Not**. Programs daily at 2:00 with extra weekend matinees at 12:30 and 3:30. Evening presentations at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. Admission is \$1.50 for adults and 50¢ for those 17 and under.

Brilliant laser images mixed with classical music is an experience you should not miss. Shows on Fridays at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30; Saturdays at 4:45, 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30; Sundays at 4:45, 7:30 and 9:00. Tickets are available through all Bay Area Seating Service outlets and remaining tickets go on sale at the planetarium box-office one-half hour before show time. Dial T-E-L-E-T-I-X for advance tickets and information. Members are reminded that this is **not** a planetarium show **nor** are your membership tickets or passes usable for this attraction.

Inside the Academy

Since the Morrison Planetarium opened in 1952, it has had a reputation as an innovative leader in the planetarium field, and under the direction of Capt. Robert D. Risser for the past 10 years, this same reputation for creativity and progressiveness has grown by leaps and bounds. We can thank him for such popular shows as "Music of the Spheres", "Heavens Above", and "Astrology: Queen of Science". And, hats off to Capt. Risser who reinstated VORTEX, and later installed the LASERIUM program; and for the special concerts held "under the stars" . . . from harpsichord compositions to moog music.

Capt. Risser retired at the beginning of the year and will be replaced by Dr. Lee Simon, Astronomer and former Program Supervisor for the Adler Planetarium of Chicago.

Opal Art — In ancient Rome, according to Pliny the Elder, the opal ranked with diamonds and pearls as "the most highly esteemed" of gems. The Empress Eugenie, wife of Napoleon, held a common belief that opals exerted some malevolent influence on their owners and refused to include them in her collection, while for Queen Victoria, a sparkling opal was among her most cherished possessions. The Turks believed that a stone of such unearthly color must fall from the sky with the lightning.

Recently a magnificent precious opal was given to the Academy by Mrs. Betty Zilen of Concord. The shimmering 213 carat gem was mined in Australia and was then carved by a contemporary Chinese artist. Opals are notoriously fragile and often crack or craze under an artist's hand, but as you can see in the photograph below the intricately carved design is perfect, and in combination with the sparkling lights of the stone create a most beautiful work of art.

The opal is now on display in the "Recent Donations" case in Mineral Hall, but will be moved to a new display of lapidary arts in the near future.



Origins of Man Symposium Scheduled

Seven of the world's most distinguished researchers on the origins of man are participating in the second annual F.R.O.M. symposium March 4, 5 and 6, 1977, on the University of California, Davis, campus.

The symposium is headed by paleontologist, Richard Leakey, director of the National Museums of Kenya and chairman of F.R.O.M. (Foundation for Research into the Origins of Man), a recently established non-profit organization designed to promote public understanding of man's early development and encourage cooperation between scientists and researchers.

The symposium begins Friday evening, March 4, at 7 p.m. with a single-fee illustrated public lecture by Richard Leakey on the Pathways of Human Origins. The fee for this lecture is \$3.00. It is free to those who enroll in the complete weekend program.

On Saturday and Sunday, March 5 and 6, the guest speakers will focus on various aspects of paleoanthropology. The symposium is offered for two quarter units of Extension credit through U. C. Davis Extension. Fee for attending the entire program is \$45. Registered college students may attend for \$35; high school students for \$25 by special arrangement. For further information contact University of California, Davis, Ca. 95616; telephone (916) 752-0880.



Education and Travel Notes

The Education Office is pleased to announce a series of special lectures to be offered in cooperation with the L.S.B. Leakey Foundation on the topics of primate and human evolution.

Moderated by Dr. F. Clark Howell, the series of four lectures will feature Dr. Donald Johanson, who will have just returned from his rich archeological dig in the Omo Valley of Ethiopia, where he has been finding hominid fossils more than three million years old; Joseph Campbell, a fascinating speaker on the topic of mythology as a source of man's early beliefs and aspirations; Birute and Rod Galdikas-Brindamour speaking on their current ethological work with orangutans in their forest habitat; and Dr. Richard Eakin, who will take us back in time to meet Charles Darwin and hear "in person" his presentation of the theory of evolution.

Mark your calendar now for the following dates:

Thursday, March 3 — Donald C. Johanson, "Early Man in Ethiopia"

Thursday, March 31 — Joseph Campbell, "The Archeology of Myth"

Thursday, April 21 — Birute and Rod Galdikas-Brindamour, "Orangutans: Indonesia's People of the Forest"

Thursday, May 19 — Richard M. Eakin appearing as Charles Darwin in "Glimpses of My Life"

All lectures will be in the Morrison Auditorium, beginning at 8:00 p.m. and lasting for approximately 1½ hours. The series of four lectures will be sold through February 21 at \$15. After that date, individual lectures will be \$4.50 per seat on a space-available basis. Reservations should be sent to the Education Office of the Academy along with a self-addressed envelope. This series is open to the public.

Some of the Academy's "spring semester" classes for adults will begin late this month. An Activities Calendar containing a complete class and trip schedule for February through August will be mailed shortly.

Gems and Gemstones: February 22-May 10, 7-9:30 p.m. An exploration of the classification, characteristics, origins and occurrence of minerals and rocks used as gems. \$50 members, \$60 non-members.

Care of Fresh and Saltwater Aquarium Fishes: February 23-April 27, 7-9 p.m. An introduction to the maintenance of home aquaria. \$40 members, \$50 non-members.

Advanced Taxidermy: February 23-April 13, 7-10 p.m. A continuation of last semester's museum taxidermy class in the creation of exhibits with a lifelike appearance. \$45 members, \$55 non-members.

Astronomy For Fun: February 28-May 16, 7-9:30 p.m. An introductory non-mathematical course to the science of astronomy. \$45 members, \$55 non-members.

Registration for all classes is through the Education Office, by mail only. Questions? 221-4214, extension 211.

Two local trips may still have room for more participants:

Bodega Bay and Birds: February 5, Saturday, 8 a.m. to mid-afternoon. Ducks and other waterfowl are abundant on Bodega Bay during the winter. We have chartered a bus for a one-day trip up to the Bay, and under the expert guidance of Dr. John Arnold, we hope to spot a wide variety. \$15 members, \$20 non-members.

Golden Gate Park Plant Walk #1: February 27, Sunday, 9 a.m.-noon. This is the first of a series of four park walks with Dr. Elizabeth McClintock, Curator of our Department of Botany. She will identify and discuss the park's plants, both native and horticultural. The meeting point will be sent with your confirmation. \$1 per person.

These two local trips can be reserved, by mail only, through the Travel Department of the Academy. Just send a check, along with your name, address and daytime telephone. The enclosure of a self-addressed envelope for trips and/or classes is appreciated.

Farther afield, we have the following trips to offer members.

India and Nepal:
February 26-March 27

A few spaces remain on our spring trip to India and Nepal, to be led by Dr. Laurence Binford, Chairman of our Department of Birds and Mammals. The most fascinating features of a fabulous land, including the natural history, the people, the arts and architecture, will share the attention of the Academy group. The Taj Mahal, Tiger Tops, Delhi, Corbett Park, Kathmandu are but a few of the places which will be explored. There is an optional trip extension to Sri Lanka for those who would like to go there. Arrangements are being planned by Siemer and Hand, Ltd., One Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, California 94111. Telephone: (415) 788-7186. Cost, including land and air travel, lodging, about half the meals, is \$2890 per person.

Guatemala:
March 5-24

This comprehensive 19-day trip will include the natural history, Mayan history, and native culture of Guatemala. It will be led by Dr. and Mrs. Robert T. Orr, who are familiar with this fascinating Central American country. Travel will be by private car and plane. There will be visits to Guatemala City, Salama, Coban, Huehuentenango, Quetzaltenango, Chichicastenango and Antigua. At remote villages in the hinterland members will have an opportunity to see primitive crafts and colorful fabrics. Native markets will be visited at Solala and Santiago Atitlan. Among the most important Mayan ruins to be seen will be those of Tikal. The interesting natural history includes vegetation ranging from thorn scrub to cloud forest, with abundant colorful bird-

life. The trip is limited to 20 with an approximate cost of \$1990. Contact Gulliver's Travel, 3597 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California 94118, or telephone (415) 346-4400 for further details and reservations.

The Scottish Highlands and Islands:
May 20-June 9

This trip is highly recommended for those interested in the natural and human history of Scotland. John Lister Kay will take Academy members to the Shetland Islands bird rookeries and 2000-year-old Pict stone ruins. In the Inner Hebrides participants will visit the rookeries of the gray seals and birds. The last third of the trip will be an exploration of the forests and glens of the Scottish Highlands. A short optional extension to Edinburgh will also be offered. Limited to 20, the cost is \$1150 for land arrangements, and \$730 for airfare. For further information contact Gulliver's Travel, 3597 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California 94118(or telephone (415) 346-4400.

Advance Notice of Monthly Meetings

March 9 and 10 — Dr. Edward S. Ross on "Natural History of the Forests of Central America"

April 13 and 14 — Al Giddings on "Palau: The Sea of Eden"

New Members of the Academy

Regular Members

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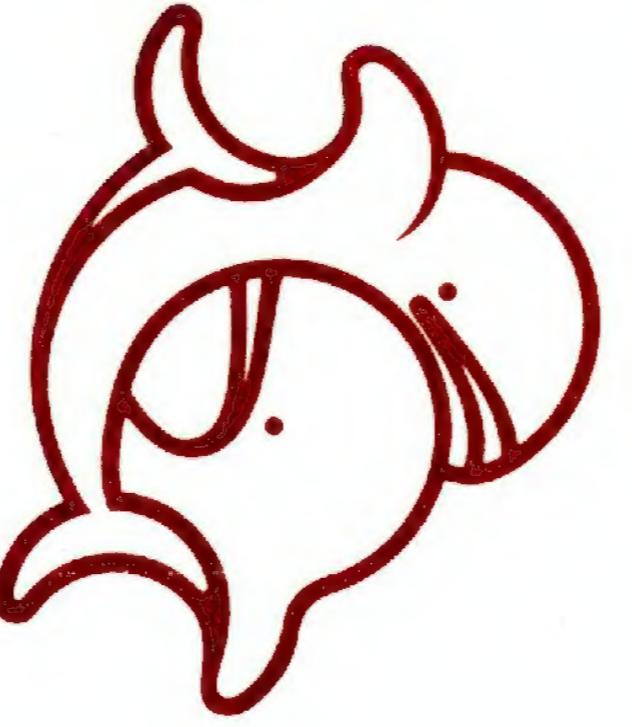
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